

congregation, and renovating and expanding their facilities.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in extending my thanks to the members of the Providence Missionary Baptist Church for their contributions to our city. I also invite my colleagues to join me in sending our congratulations as they celebrate the completion of their new church building, and offering our best wishes as they commemorate their 83rd anniversary later this year.

CONGRATULATING THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN

HON. JAMES C. GREENWOOD

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2004

Mr. GREENWOOD. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the enactment of the Taiwan Relations Act (April 10), I wish to congratulate the people of Taiwan. For the last quarter century, the Taiwan Relations Act has been the cornerstone of the U.S. relationship with Taiwan. It has enabled Taiwan to move from an authoritarian state to a full democracy and has provided the people of Taiwan with the tools necessary to achieve the highest standards of living.

Taiwan has now completed its third ever direct presidential election. Even though incumbent President Chen Shui-bian won a razor thin victory over his opponent, Taiwan's latest presidential election has demonstrated to the world that the people of Taiwan have exercised their democratic right through a remarkable 80 percent voter turnout.

Let us hope that in the days and months ahead Taiwan President Chen will use the power of his office to lead Taiwan's 23 million people, and that peace and stability will continue to prevail in the Taiwan Strait for the next 25 years and beyond.

In the meantime I wish to salute Taiwan Ambassador C.J. Chen, who will be returning to Taipei next month. He has served Taiwan well as his country's top diplomat in Washington during the last 4 years. He and his wife Yolanda will be missed by their friends in Washington.

CONGRATULATING FAIRFIELD UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT ALOYSIUS P. KELLEY, S.J.

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2004

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Aloysius P. Kelley, S.J., the seventh and longest-serving President in Fairfield University's history, who plans to retire on June 30, 2004, after 25 years of service.

Father Kelley's decision marks the end of a tremendously successful 25-year tenure during which Fairfield University has become one of the preeminent Jesuit schools in the country. As the longest serving president of the nation's 28 Jesuit colleges and universities, arriving at the University in 1979, Father Kelley has presided over the graduation of 64 percent of Fairfield's 38,000 alumni.

During his tenure, Father Kelley worked tirelessly in collaboration with the University's faculty, alumni, parents and friends to achieve extraordinary results. He has overseen facility expansion that has transformed the campus, including the construction and acquisition of 14 new facilities and the renovation and expansion of 12 others.

The student body and faculty of Fairfield University have been strengthened over the past 25 years. On the undergraduate level, Fairfield this year set an all-time record in the number of applications, with 7,655 for 850 seats in the incoming class. During Father Kelley's tenure, the average combined SAT score for the entering class has increased from 1,065 to 1,197. Fairfield's admission for this year's entering class placed it among the top five percent of four-year colleges and universities in the nation in terms of selectivity. The intellectual environment thrived during Father Kelley's tenure.

This is the end of an extraordinarily successful era. Under Father Kelley's leadership, Fairfield University has experienced dramatic growth and success. To top it all off, the institution's endowment has increased from under \$2 million in 1979 to \$131 million currently.

Father Kelley will be greatly missed. He leaves a strong legacy and bright future on which his successor may build. I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to Father Kelley for his tremendous accomplishments.

TRANSPORTATION EQUITY ACT: A LEGACY FOR USERS

SPEECH OF

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 1, 2004

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3550) to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes:

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Chairman, my primary objective being named to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee in the 107th Congress was to improve Michigan's minimum rate of return for highway dollars from the current 90.5 percent in the reauthorization of TEA-21. Sadly, the bill reported from the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, H.R. 3550, while increasing the overall pot of money to \$284 billion over six years, decreases the amount of programs or "scope" that the minimum rate of return applies to, effectively decreasing our share to about 79 percent of every road dollar. The amendment offered by Mr. ISAKSON of Georgia on the House floor would have corrected this flaw and at least allow Michigan and other donor States to continue receiving the same rate of return on the same scope of projects as in current law. The net effect of this amendment would have been an additional \$300 million to meet Michigan's needs. While I voted in favor of this amendment, it was defeated by a vote of 170-254.

Given the fact that under H.R. 3550, Michigan will receive less of a percentage of road dollars than they do today, I am voting against it on final passage. Michigan's roads and infra-

structure have taken a back seat to other States for far too long. Enough is enough—it is time these Federal road dollars go to Michigan projects and create Michigan jobs. I am hopeful that we can work to make the final product better for Michigan's citizens in conference committee.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2004

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to praise a valuable organization located in the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania that has striven to advance the independence of individuals with disabilities for 50 years. I am proud to represent the congressional district that has housed, for 50 years, the United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) of Western Pennsylvania.

Building on the vision of the founding families who purchased and renovated a three-story home in Spring Church, Armstrong County, where a day clinic for children with disabilities was housed, UCP today serves some 1,500 individuals, adult and children, in their homes and communities. For half a century the agency, serving Armstrong, Indiana, and Westmoreland Counties in southwestern Pennsylvania, has been providing programs and services for physically and mentally challenged individuals. Most of the consumers are diagnosed with cerebral palsy, mental retardation, Down syndrome, developmental delays, speech and language disorders, spina bifida, multiple sclerosis or spinal cord injuries. The accomplishments that UCP has made in the last 50 years have made significant improvements to the lives of the physically and mentally challenged in southwestern Pennsylvania.

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring this fine organization and the benefits that it has bestowed on so many individuals in southwestern Pennsylvania. It is truly an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District and to recognize the 50th anniversary of the United Cerebral Palsy of Western Pennsylvania.

VAISAKHI DAY, SIKH HOLIDAY— USE OPPORTUNITY TO FREE KHALISTAN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, April 13 is Vaisakhi Day, the anniversary of the founding of the Sikh Nation in 1699. The Sikhs love freedom as we do, Mr. Speaker. They have a long tradition of fighting oppression wherever it rears its ugly head and they have a history of self-rule.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish the Sikhs in America and the Sikhs around the world a happy Vaisakhi Day.

The Council of Khalistan, the organization that is leading the Sikh movement to liberate